NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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NLM Resumes Processing of New MEDLARS Search Requests

The curtailment of processing of new MEDLARS search requests (*NLM News*, December 1966) was lifted effective January 16. Processing of the backlog of searches, which had exceeded the Library's manpower resources, has proceeded more rapidly than scheduled. NLM is now accepting new search requests.

In eliminating the backlog, NLM proposes to provide responses to MEDLARS requests on a more timely basis. The bulk of search requests will be processed and released by the NLM within a period of 15 working days after receipt by the NLM Search Section. Requests which pose unusual problems will be reported on within one month.

In order to preclude the development of new backlogs which would interfere with timely services, NLM intends to limit the number of searches accepted for processing to a level consistent with the manpower resources available. When the regional MEDLARS search centers become fully operational, requests may be referred to the appropriate center for processing. Reporting will be on the same basis as at the Library. When MEDLARS requests exceed these capabilities, NLM will return excess MEDLARS requests to the user without processing.

To minimize processing time, NLM intends to use form letter replies in place of individualized correspondence. Upon receipt of a demand bibliography, the requester is invited to telephone the Library's Search Section to discuss the bibliography and retrieval strategy with the search analyst whose name appears on the transmittal letter.

The Library is soliciting the cooperation of medical librarians throughout the country in assisting their users to submit properly completed request forms so that searches can be processed more expeditiously by MEDLARS. Copies of the new *Guide to MEDLARS Services* are available on request to: Assistant to the Director, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

NLM's MEDLARS Publications Have New Look

The covers of the 1967 editions of *Index Medicus* and other key NLM publications produced by MEDLARS have been redesigned (see photo page 4) to present a more uniform appearance (as befits a family of publications) and to make identification easier.

(Continued on Page 4)

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8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dental Educators to Confer at NLM

A conference on continuing education in dentistry will be held at the Library January 26-27. Representatives from academic institutions, government agencies, and organized dentistry will participate. They will discuss resources for continuing education in dentistry, how dental libraries can serve those concerned with continuing education programs, and the role of the National Library of Medicine in furthering these programs.

ISD Chief Appointed

Mr. Redmer

Paul C. Redmer has been named Chief, Information Systems Division, effective December 18, 1966. Mr. Redmer is responsible for the operation of the MEDLARS data-processing equipment. He will also direct the development of new computer programs, and the study and application of new automated information-handling techniques at NLM.

A graduate of the University of Chicago, Mr. Redmer has been at the Library since 1964, first as Deputy Chief and, since April 1966, as Acting Chief of ISD.

After service as a U. S. Air Force navigator, he worked in various computer-related assignments with Procter and Gamble Company. From 1963 to 1964, he served as Operations Analyst and Group Leader, Logistics Systems, at Technical Operations, Inc.

Final Issue of BMT

The Library regrets that increasing costs made it necessary to discontinue publication of the *Bibliography of Medical Translations*, effective with the December 30 issue.

Citations in the *Bibliography of Medical Translations*, as well as citations to nonmedical translations, are listed in *Technical Translations*, published by the Clearinghouse for Scientific and Technical Information, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia 22151. Subscriptions are $12 per year ($16 foreign), from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

New Special Assistant to Deputy Director

Miss Corning

Mary E. Corning has been appointed Special Assistant to the Deputy Director, Mr. Scott Adams. Miss Corning was formerly Chief, Publications and Translations Division, Extramural Programs.

She will be responsible for NLM liaison with other government agencies, national scientific groups, and international organizations. Among these are the President's Committee on Scientific and Technical Information (COSATI), the Agency for International Development, the Pan American Health Organization, and the World Health Organization.

Before joining the NLM staff in 1964, Miss Corning served with the National Science Foundation, the Department of State, and the National Bureau of Standards.

Advisory Committee Members Named

The Library has announced the membership of two Extramural Programs advisory panels: the Facilities and Resources Advisory Committee, and the Manpower and Training Advisory Committee. The committees serve as preliminary consultants on the merit and feasibility of grant applications under the Medical Library Assistance Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-291).

The Facilities and Resources Advisory Committee reviews applications for construction, resource, and regional library grants; the Manpower and Training Advisory Committee deals with applications for training grants, fellowships, and traineeships.

The committees' recommendations, together with the grant applications, are presented for final review to the NLM Board of Regents in its capacity as the National Medical Libraries Assistance Advisory Board. The Board makes its recommendations to the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. Those applications recommended for approval by the Board may be considered for an award by the Surgeon General.

Dr. Carl D. Douglass, Chief, Facilities and Resources Division, serves as Executive Secretary to the F&RAC, and Mr. David Kefauver, Chief, Research and Training Division, as Executive Secretary to the M&TAC.

Facilities and Resources Advisory Committee

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Dean, School of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland

(Continued from Page 1)

Each monthly issue of *Index Medicus* will have a distinctive cover color (January: red). *Medical Subject Headings* will be black with a varnish-coated cover. *NLM Current Catalog* biweekly issues will have covers matching the colors of the appropriate quarterly cumulative issues.

A list of current NLM publications is enclosed with this issue of the *NLM News*. Contents, format, and price of the publications are indicated.